

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a work piece by using in-mold coating and melt compression molding, the method comprising the steps of:
introducing an in-mold coating comprising a water-based or a solvent-based paint onto a first mold half of a mold tool;

introducing a work piece material onto a second mold half of the mold tool, the work piece material having a temperature at or above a temperature at which at least a portion of the work piece material is in a molten state;

closing the mold tool; and

opening the mold tool and removing the work piece after the work piece material has at least partially cooled.

2. (Original) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the in-mold coating is introduced by spraying the in-mold coating onto the first mold half.

3. (Original) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the work piece material comprises a thermoplastic resin material.

4. (Original) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 3, wherein the material comprises Polypropylene (PP), Acrylnitril-Butadiene-Styrene-Copolymer (ABS), Polycarbonate-Acrylnitril-Butadien-Styrol-Copolymer (PC/ABS), or Thermoplastic Olefin (TPO) material.

5. (Original) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the work piece material includes fillers, reinforcement glass or reinforcement natural fibers.

6. (Original) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, further including the step of introducing a mold release onto one of the first or second mold tool halves.

7. (New) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the in-mold coating comprises a polyurethane paint.

8. (New) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the in-mold coating has a thickness in a range between about 10-50 μ .

9. (New) A method for manufacturing a work piece according to Claim 1, wherein the closed mold tool exerts a pressure of approximately 0.5 to 2.0 tons per square inch.